

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for confirming the species and supplying relevant information. I am also thankful to Dr. S. H. Godbole for going through the manuscript and suggesting valuable

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29. *VITTARIA LINEARIFOLIA* CHING—A NEW RECORD FOR INDIA

(With five text-figures)

In the course of studies on ferns of the genus *Vittaria* J. Sm. in India, I came across a peculiar specimen, collected from Arunachal Pradesh, characterised by its long linear, flexuose leaves, strongly incurved margins and midrib broader than the soral line. With the help of literature (Ching 1931)¹, the specimen was identified as *V. linearifolia* Ching and the identification was confirmed at Kew by Dr. G. Panigrahi.

V. linearifolia Ching is earlier reported from Tibet, Yunnan, and Burma, therefore, its occurrence in Arunachal Pradesh is a new record for the Indian region.

The species is described in detail with illustrations to facilitate its easy identification.

¹ Ching, R. C. (1931): The studies of Chinese ferns VI. Genus *Vittaria* of China and Sikkim—Himalaya. *Sinensia* 1 (12): 175-199.

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Vittaria linearifolia Ching, *Sinensia* 1 (12): 183, t. 1, figs. 1-3, 1931.

Plants epiphytic on moss covered tree trunks and branches. Rhizome creeping, clothed with many clathrate scales, ovate-lanceolate, 1-1.5 × 0.4-0.6 mm and margins dentate, Fronds tufted, stipes short, 3-5 mm long, leaves linear-lanceolate, 30-35 cm × 2-3 mm; flexuose, texture rigidly coriaceous but fragile on drying, margins strongly involute, midrib flattened and broader than the soral line, upper surface plane, lower surface longitudinally bisulcate. Sori intramarginal, completely filling up the space between midrib and margins; paraphyses capitate, spores monoletic, 30-65 μm, verrucoid (Figs. 1-5).

Specimen examined: Arunachal Pradesh: Kameng district: Bomdila, R. S. Rao 7336 (ASSAM).

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